

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

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E.O. 11652:N/A  
TAGS: PINT GT  
SUBJ: PERALTA AZURDIA ASKS SUPREME COURT TO VOID ELECTIONS

SUMMARY: DEFEATED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE COL. ENRIQUE PERALTA AZURDIA HAS ASKED THE SUPREME COURT TO VOID THE MARCH 5 NATIONAL ELECTION. ALTHOUGH THIS SUIT REPRESENTS A POTENTIAL THREAT TO ORDERLY SUCCESSION, IT IS NOT EXPECTED TO PROSPER. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JUNE 23, SCARCELY A WEEK BEFORE THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW PRSIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, COL. ENRIQUE PERALTA AZURDIA (WHO LOST TO LUCAS IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RUN-OFF) FILED A PETITION TO HAVE THE SUPREME COURT DECLARE THE MARCH 5 ELECTION (TECHNICALLY THE TWO CONGRESSIONAL DECREES VALIDATING THE ELECTION AND NAMING LUCAS AND VILLAGRAN KRAMER AS PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT RESPECTIVELY) UNCONSTITUTIONAL. THE SUIT, WHICH DOES NOT CHALLENGE THE CONTROVERSIAL OFFICIAL VOTE  
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COUNT, ARUGUES THAT THE PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN THE ELECTION HAD ALLOWED THEIR REGISTRATIONS TO LAPSE AND HENCE WERE NOT QUALIFIED TO PUT UP CANDIDATES. COL. PERALTA SAID HE WAS ACTING IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY IN SUBMITTING THE PETITION.

2. CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DCG) SEC GEN VINICIO

CEREZO VENTURED OPINION TO REPORTERS THAT PERALTA AZURDIA'S LEGAL ARGUMENT WAS GOOD, BUT POLITICALLY DOOMED. LEADERS OF BOTH THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (PR) AND THE INSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PID) HAVE ATTACKED THE PRCEEDING STATING THE PETITION SHOULD BE REJECTED AS IMPROPER OF FRIVOLOUS. THE HEAD OF THE ELECTORAL REGISTRY MAINTAINS THEPARTY REGISTRATIONS WERE IN ORDER. (AS A TEST OF SERIOUSNESS, PETITIONER'S LAWYER MUST PAY FINES IF PETITION FAILS.) PRESS ANTI-CIPATES EARLY COURT DECISION, ALTHOUGH COURT HAS EIGHT DAYS TO DECIDE WHETHER TO ENTERTAIN THE COMPLAINT.

3. COMMENT. COMNG LATE AS IT DOES, THE COLONEL'S PETITION, IF ACCEPTED, COULD THROW THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES FOR TRANSFERRING POWER INTO AN UPROAR, OR AT MINIMUM UNDERMINE, AT MOST VULNERALB MOMENT , LUCAS' PRETENSIONS TO LEGITIMACY. THIS PRESUMABLY IS WHAT PERALTA AZURDIA HAD IN MIND. CERTAINLY MINGOV ALVAREZ HAS CHARGED THAT THIS MOVE BY PERALTA IS JUST ANOTHER PART OF A GRAND CONSPIRACY WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPING IN RECENT WEEKS TO INTERRUPT THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION. HOWEVER, WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE, CONSENSUS AMONG POLITICIANS IS THAT THIS PETITION, LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTEFERE WITH LUCAS, INAUGURATION. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL LONG SERIES OF MLN CHALLENGES WHICH WERE AL THROWN OUT BY COURTS ON PROCDURAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GORUNDS.  
BOSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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